### **Brownfields 101**

Indiana Brownfields Conference April 11-12, 2006



#### **Presentation Overview**



- Brownfields: What are they? How do they affect land use? Why is brownfields redevelopment important? Examples of reuse?
- What are obstacles to brownfields redevelopment?
- How can we help you help yourselves?
- What do you really need to remember?
- Who can tell you what it's really like out there?

#### What is a Brownfield?



- Indiana defines a brownfield site as:
  - a parcel of real estate
  - abandoned, inactive, or underutilized
  - on which expansion, redevelopment, or reuse is complicated because of the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, a contaminant, petroleum, or a petroleum product



### **Examples of Brownfields**

- gas station
- dry cleaning facility
- foundry
- railroad yard
- old school
- grain elevator
- landfill

## **Ugly Pictures**











### **Brownfields and Land Use**



- The \$64 million question How many brownfields are there in Indiana?
  - An exact number is not known... BUT
  - Use the definition and a large body of knowledge from federal and state programs = EVERY INDIANA COMMUNITY PROBABLY HAS AT LEAST ONE BROWNFIELD SITE!!!
  - Estimated 10,000 statewide

### **Land Use and Brownfields**



- Land use issues in Indiana: sprawl, traffic congestion, negative costs of development, loss of greenspace, community/cultural identity impacts, watershed deterioration, etc.
- Developers must choose Greenfields or Brownfields?
- Every redeveloped acre of brownfields = the equivalent greenspace acreage potentially saved
- First step toward strategic land use?
   Focus on brownfields!

# Why is Brownfields Redevelopment Important?



- Links economic vitality with environmental protection
- Stimulates economy through investment and job creation
- Returns abandoned or underutilized properties to tax roles
- Values existing infrastructure (decreases costs)
- Improves community appearance
- Fosters sustainable and livable communities
- Increases surrounding property values
- Promotes infill development
- Decreases blight (improves community appearance)
- Encourages planned growth / discourages urban sprawl
- Preserves greenspace and farmland

## **Examples of Brownfields Reuse/Redevelopment**



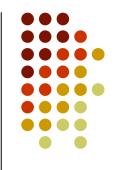
- Industrial
- Commercial
- Residential
- Public
- Greenspace parks, golf courses, trails, greenways
- Mixed

### **Specific Examples of Reuse**



- industrial park
- shopping center
- grocery store
- restaurant
- houses, apartments, condos
- government offices
- bank
- soccer field
- golf course
- community park

## **Pretty Pictures**







## **Pretty Pictures**







# What are Obstacles to Brownfields Redevelopment?



- Real or potential environmental contamination
- Assessment / Cleanup costs
- Liability issues for the lender, prospective purchaser, and third parties
- Socio-economic issues
- Economic development climate
- Viability of re-use plans for the site



# More Potential Obstacles to Redevelopment?



- Unknowns risks, ownership, access
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of planning
- Lack of partnerships
   (among local gov't,
   developers, community
   groups, etc.)
- Lack of community support



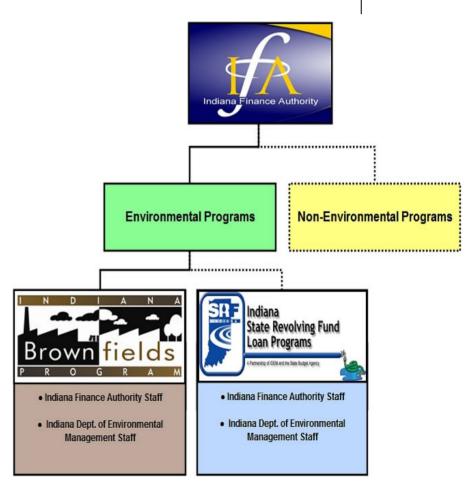
#### Stakeholders / Partners



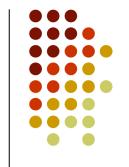
- Local Government Public
- State and Federal Government Agencies - Public
- Local/State Interest Groups Private
- Local Business Organizations -Private & Public

# The Indiana Brownfields Program Lends a Hand

- We can help you help yourselves by providing:
  - Educational Assistance
  - Financial Assistance
  - Technical Assistance
  - Legal Assistance
- We can also lead you to IDEM's Voluntary Remediation Program
  - Certificates of Completion
  - Covenants Not to Sue
- We can also help coordinate and navigate through IDEM's regulatory programs



### **Contact Information**



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Check out the Indiana Brownfields Program web site at <a href="https://www.brownfields.in.gov">www.brownfields.in.gov</a>

### Important Points to Remember



- Brownfields redevelopment balances economic development with environmental protection
- Brownfield projects are driven by local champions
- Don't reinvent the wheel talk to other stakeholders
- 3 Ps Planning (*long-term*), public participation, and partnerships are keys to success!!
- You're not in this alone!
- Brownfield projects may warrant state and/or federal assistance
- Indiana Brownfields Program offers tools to facilitate brownfields redevelopment
- Brownfields are not just challenges they're opportunities ©

## Local Champions Who Walk the Talk



Small community tells its story

Medium community tells its story

Large community tells its story

The End ©